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INNER COUNTY OUREACH'S "UNDER THE BIG TENT" CELEBRATION A HUGE SUCCESS

(Bel Air, MD - September 17, 2008) Three hundred fifty families (1,400 individuals) in the Aberdeen community came as Inner County Outreach (ICO) marked their 20 years of continuous service with a very successful *Under the Big Tent* Celebration on September 13, 2008 from noon to 4:00 PM at 529 Edmund Street in Aberdeen. The Harford County Department of Community Services, generous contributors from the community, area agencies and non-profits joined ICO in putting on this event, which provided much needed school supplies, food, shoes and information to local families. Extreme Family Outreach also entertained children with face painting, bubbles, songs and stories.

"The Lord held back the rain," stated Roslyn Johnson, Executive Director, who was thrilled by the turnout for this event.

Inner County Outreach would like to sincerely thank all those who helped make the day a success, including:

Contributors

- The Aegis
- Ray Fisher
- Maryland Food Bank and the Harford Community Action Agency (*provided 2.5 tons of food for the event, including fresh peaches, potatoes, bread and non-perishables*)
- Lever Brothers (*provided 2 pallets of soap powder valued at \$4,000 and 250 "back to school backpacks" containing pencils, binders, note books, pencil boxes, glue, scissors, and study booklets*)
- Clorox (*provided 6 pallets of household products*)
- Reverend and Sister Porter (*donated sneakers and shoes*)
- Paidon Products
- Harco Auto Sales
- St. Joan of Arc
- Harford County Department of Community Services

Vendors

- BG&E
- Harford County Board of Elections
- Harford County Sheriff's Office
- Harford Community Action Agency
- Harford County Library - Rolling Reader
- Board of Education of Harford County

Social Services

- Wage Connection
- Aberdeen Bible Church
- Restoration Academy
- NAACP
- Harford County Department of Community Services
- MOTA (minority technical assistance)
- Aberdeen Bible Church Youth Department

Inner County Outreach works to assist low- to moderate-income families to obtain housing and homeownership; develop entrepreneurial activities for youth and adults; and to facilitate the family-school-social service relationships to produce better outcomes for youth and families.

The mission of Inner County Outreach is to improve single parent family relations and strengthen, support, and nurture the development of these families. ICO recognizes that families with single female heads of households are at a greater risk of poverty and other societal ills. ICO strives to aid these families through programs and services that address parenting, economic development and personal growth. ICO has been in operation since 1989 serving the at-risk, low-income population of Harford County.